

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 00982 200855Z

ACTION IO-14

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INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS USUN NEW YORK 00982

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, MARR, UNSC, XF

SUBJECT: SECRETARY-GENERAL'S STATEMENT IN UNSC ON UN FORCE
IN LEBANON

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM
MADE IN UN SECURITY COUNCIL FOLLOWING ADOPTION
MARCH 19 OF RESOLUTION APPROVING HIS REPORT ON ESTABLISH-
MENT OF UN INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON (UNIFIL).

BEGIN TEXT:

MR. PRESIDENT, NOW THAT THE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED MY
REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY
COUNCIL RESOLUTION 425 (1978), I SHALL PROCEED TO PUT INTO
EFFECT THE PLAN OF OPERATION OUTLINED IN
PARAGRAPH 9 OF THAT DOCUMENT. I SHALL INSTRUCT LT.
GENERAL SIILASVUO, CHIEF CO-ORDINATOR OF UNITED NATIONS
PEACE-KEEPING MISSIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST, IMMEDIATELY
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 USUN N 00982 200855Z

TO INITIATE MEETINGS ON THE WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI FORCES
AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNITED NATIONS AREA OF OPERA-
TION.

AS I HAVE INFORMED THE COUNCIL THIS MORNING, FOLLOW-
ING ITS ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 425 ON SOUTHERN LEBANON,
I HAVE INSTRUCTED MAJOR-GENERAL ERSKINE, THE CHIEF OF

STAFF OF UNTSO, TO DEPLOY UNTSO OBSERVERS WITH A VIEW OF CONFIRMING THE CESSATION OF MILITARY ACTION IN THE AREA.

IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR AN IMMEDIATE PRESENCE OF THE NEW FORCE IN THE AREA, I HAVE INSTRUCTED LT. GENERAL SIILASVUO TO CO-ORDINATE WITH THE COMMANDERS OF UNDOF AND UNEF THE TEMPORARY TRANSFER OF REINFORCED COMPANIES FROM THE AUSTRIAN CONTINGENT IN UNDOF AND THE SWEDISH CONTINGENT IN UNEF TO SERVE, TEMPORARILY, AS THE ADVANCE GUARD OF UNIFIL. I HAVE CONTACTED THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED WITH A VIEW TO HAVING THEIR AGREEMENT TO THE PROPOSED TEMPORARY TRANSFER.

I HAVE TODAY MADE INITIAL CONTACTS WITH A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENTS WITH A VIEW TO ASCERTAINING THEIR WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE CONTINGENTS FOR THE NEW FORCE. I HOPE TO BE ABLE TO CONSULT WITH THE COUNCIL ON THIS MATTER IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE.

AS WE ARE ABOUT TO ENGAGE IN THIS NEW OPERATION, I FEEL OBLIGED TO POINT OUT TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL THE EXTREME COMPLEXITY AND DIFFICULTY OF THE TASK CONFRONTING THE UNITED NATIONS FORCE IN SOUTHERN LEBANON. IT WILL HAVE TO ENSURE THE PEACEFUL CHARACTER OF THE AREA OF OPERATIONS AND TO THAT END CONTROL MOVEMENT INTO AND OUT OF THE ZONE. IT WILL HAVE TO CO-OPERATE WITH THE LEBANESE
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 USUN N 00982 200855Z

AUTHORITIES, INCLUDING THE ARMY AND POLICE, IN THE PROCESS OF RESTORING LEBANESE SOVEREIGNTY.

A NUMBER OF BASIC PREREQUISITES HAVE NOT YET BEEN CLARIFIED. THESE INCLUDE THE MODALITIES OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI FORCES FROM SOUTHERN LEBANON. I SHALL DO MY BEST TO CLARIFY THESE AND OTHER MATTERS BOTH HERE AT HEADQUARTERS AND THROUGH THE CONTACTS WHICH I HAVE INSTRUCTED GENERAL SIILASVUO TO INITIATE IN THE AREA.

THE NATURE OF UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS, AS ORDERED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL, REQUIRES THE FULL CO-OPERATION OF ALL THOSE CONCERNED FOR THEIR EFFECTIVENESS. I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO APPEAL ONCE AGAIN FOR SUCH CO-OPERATION. THE OPERATIONS ALSO REQUIRE THE FULL AND CONSTANT SUPPORT OF THE COUNCIL ITSELF. THIS WILL CERTAINLY BE PARTICULARLY TRUE OF THE OPERATION ON WHICH WE HAVE JUST EMBARKED. I SHALL, OF COURSE, KEEP THE COUNCIL FULLY INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO THE FORCE AND SHALL NOT HESITATE TO SEEK ITS SUPPORT WHENEVER NECESSARY.

END TEXT. LEONARD

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